

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 03724 152342Z

21

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /068 W

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P R 152326Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1067

INFO USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 3724

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, CH, US

SUBJ: EVENTS IN CANADA ARISING OUT OF DEATH OF MAO

REF: STATE 223128

1. THERE HAVE BEEN, IN CANADA, NO UNUSUAL EVENTS ARISING OUT OF DEATH OF MAO. PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU, THEN SECSTATE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MACEACHEN, AND GOVERNOR-GENERAL LEGER SENT TELEGRAMS OF CONDOLENCE TO PRC AND WE UNDERSTAND THAT EACH HAS STOPPED BY TO SIGN BOOK OF CONDOLENCES AT PRC EMBASSY IN OTTAWA.

2. AMBASSADOR DOES NOT PLAN TO SIGN CONDOLENCE BOOK.

3. ACCORDING TO HIGGINBOTHAM, CHINA DESK OFFICER, EXTAFF, PRC EMBASSY HAS CANCELLED ALL SOCIAL ACTIVITIES. THERE WAS TO BE A DINNER FOR MENZIES, NEW GOC AMBASSADOR TO PRC, FOR EXAMPLE, BUT THIS WAS CANCELLED. SUBSTANTIVE ACTIVITIES BY CHINESE HAVE ALSO BEEN CURTAILED, ACCORDING TO HIGGINBOTHAM. GOC AND PRC WERE TO HAVE HAD A SMALL CEREMONY SEPT 15 ON OCCASION OF RENEWING TRADE AGREE-
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PAGE 02 OTTAWA 03724 152342Z

MENT BUT THIS WILL NOT BE HELD. EXTAFF ASKED

PRC EMBASSY ABOUT GROUP OF PRC JOURNALISTS TRAVELING IN WESTERN CANADA AND WERE TOLD THAT VISIT SHOULD GO AHEAD AS PLANNED BUT WITHOUT ANY SOCIAL ACTIVITIES. HIGGINBOTHAM UNDERSTANDS THAT THE 50 OR SO CHINESE STUDENTS STUDYING IN CANADA HAVE BEEN CALLED TO THE PRC EMBASSY IN OTTAWA TO PARTICIPATE DURING PERIOD OF MOURNING. HIGGINBOTHAM SAID THAT PERIOD OF MOURNING AND CURTAILED ACTIVITIES HERE WILL, LIKE IN PEKING, LAST UNTIL SEPT 18.

4. TALKING BRIEFLY ABOUT FUTURE GOC COURSES OF ACTION, HIGGINBOTHAM SAID THAT GOC CONSIDERS PRC BEHAVIOR OVER NEXT SIX MONTHS AS VERY IMPORTANT. TO MONITOR CHINESE REACTIONS, GOC WILL "AGGRESSIVELY PURSUE" BILATERAL BUSINESS AS USUAL. THERE ARE SEVERAL MINISTERIAL VISIT OPEN INVITATIONS (BOTH WAYS) AND HE SUGGESTED THAT GOC WILL NOT LET THESE LAPSE. GOC HAS, FOR EXAMPLE, EXTENDED AN INVITATION TO PRC PREMIER HUA KUO-FENG.
ENDERS

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